

He who keeps close to God will not be close with God.

MISSIONARY

PREMILLENNIAL

BIBLICAL

BAPTISTIC

The Baptist Examiner

Paid Circulation In All States and In Many Foreign Countries

"To the law and to the testimony; if they speak not according to this word it is because there is no light in them."—Isaiah 8:20.

VOL. 17, NO. 17

RUSSELL, KENTUCKY, MAY 26, 1951

WHOLE NUMBER 644

Practical And Helpful Thoughts As To Church Discipline

By Roy Mason
Tampa, Florida

How Church Discipline Should Be Administered

Under this head let us first note some of the mistakes that are often made:

1. The mistake of applying Matt. 18:15-17 to cases where members have offended against the church. The above Scripture applies to cases of trouble between individuals, and has no reference to cases of offense against the church as such. Sending committees to see people has defeated church discipline as no other thing that can be done. How? Why? We suggest—

(1) Because often the wrong committee was sent, and this committee only served to make the offender mad, and gave him further excuse for wrong doing.

(2) Because often the com-

mittee—very often in fact—does not serve properly, and the matter is one that continues to come up month after month, with nothing done about it, until everybody is worn out.



Eld. Roy Mason

(3) Because often the committee condones the offender rather than condemns. The committee that excuses the offender and halfway puts the

church in the wrong in their talk, is one that does immeasurable harm — and that very thing happens over and over.

(4) Because the church is often put on the defensive by the offender through this committee arrangement.

(5) Because this committee business furnishes ideal opportunity for the development of a church fuss. While the committee is under appointment the kinfolks and friends of the offender get busy with their tongues, and soon there is a faction that is ready to back the wrong doer.

Personally, in most cases, when somebody proposes a committee to see Bro. So and So, we feel like saying, "Let's forget the whole matter." For we repeat committees have done more to prevent Scriptural church discipline than everything else put together.

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MARANATHA

"The Lord is at hand."—I Cor. 16:22

J. Donson Smith

To-day! To-day! Perhaps the Lord is coming:
The blessed Lord for Whom I've waited long:
The thought inspires my heart to its glad cunning--
To find deliverance in uplifting song.

To-day may end those problems which are pressing--
Those weary burdens known to me alone:
Those things which in themselves are so depressing,
All, all in one brief moment will have flown.

To-day may end all thoughts about the morrow;
To-day may end all tempting cause for fears;
To-day may terminate all earthly sorrow--
All sense of human heart-break, grief and tears.

To-day may bring the wonder and the glory--
The entrance quick into the Home so fair;
The full revealing of life's finished story;
The Master's tribute--which hath no compare.

To-day, perhaps, I'll meet with loved ones cherished--
And re-unite the bonds of long ago:
Those precious links, which for a time have perished--
I shall renew--but fuller than below.

To-day! To-day! And so the day doth brighten:
This Blessed Hope renews me and inspires:
And pressing problems somehow seem to lighten;
And heavy burdens lose the weight which tires.

How Wheat Field Teaches A Lesson Of Humility And Worth

A city lad visiting on a farm the first time saw a field of ripening wheat. He noticed that some of the yellow stems stood up tall and straight while others gracefully bent their heads. "Those stalks that stand up so tall and straight must be the best," he remarked to the farm lad who was his companion. "They look as if they were proud of what they were doing."

The country boy laughed. "That's because you don't know much about wheat," he explained. He plucked a head of each and rubbing them in his hands showed that the tall straight stalks held very little grain while the bending heads were filled with the promise of a

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"Why Do Catholics Keep Running To Church?"

The Knights of Columbus are running lengthy pieces in the dailies and magazines, the following being taken from a recent article of theirs, "Why Catholics Keep Running to Church."

"You've probably heard people comment at times on the fact that their Catholic neighbors go to church so often. Perhaps you have wondered yourself—is all this necessary?"

"Catholics, you may be sure, have good reasons.

"Going to Mass on Sunday is, of course, an obligation for every Catholic. Confessions and Holy Communion at least once a year are a sacred duty. But most Catholics go to Confession and receive Holy Communion oftener — some every month, some every week, some every day.

"There are many special services and devotions for which

Catholics go to church. In the average city, the Catholic church is always open — and seldom empty. Many will enter the church at any hour of the day to visit Jesus Christ present on the altar, mindful of His invitation: 'Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.'

How innocent that sounds! What is nicer than for all professing Christians to love to "go to church" regularly? But is that what the above means? Far from it! The real reason Catholics go to church so punctually is that they are forced to go by their priest; and the reason he is so diligent in seeing that they do go, is that he has it to do to keep them from having time and opportunity for studying the Bible. It is to keep Catholics in darkness as to what the Bible teaches. It is to get be-

tween the people and their Savior, cutting them off from Him and leading them to live and die without a Savior. When Catholics are in the church praying to Catholic statues, they are not studying the Bible. The assertion that Catholics enter the church often "to visit Jesus Christ present on the altar," is false, for He is not there in any sense; for the religion of Catholics is one nowhere taught in the Gospel of Christ, hence Christ is not to be met in any Catholic church or worship. That is the absolute truth. The prayers Catholics offer, they offer to Mary rather than to God; and the ceremonies they practice are taken from Paganism rather than from the Bible.

There is only one way to save Catholics, and that is to get them to see that Catholic service has but one design, which

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Why Palestine Is The Desire Of Russia's Greed

I. Palestine, "The Navel of the Earth"

Then there is still another reason why Gog or Russia will covet the land of Abraham. Long before the fabulous wealth of the natural resources of the land was known to men, and while the land seemed only "a desolation in the sight of all that passed by," nations fought long and bloody wars to secure possession of it.

II. The Will of Peter the Great

The will of Peter the Great, who died in 1725 A. D., revealed the fact that this ambitious tyrant formed plans of conquest that Russia for more than two hundred years has sought to

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FULL OF THE BIBLE

A boy was on a steamboat taking a journey. One day as he sat alone on the deck, looking down into the deep water, two ungodly men agreed that one of them would persuade him to take a drink of liquor. So one of the men drew near the lad, and in a very pleasant voice and manner invited him to go drink a glass of wine with him.

"I thank you sir," said the boy, "but I never drink intoxicating liquors."

"Never mind, my lad; it will not hurt you. Come and have a drink with me."

"Wine is a mocker, strong drink is raging: And whosoever is deceived thereby is not wise," was the boy's ready reply.

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The First Baptist Pulpit

"SPIRITUAL FAMINES"

Pastor Gilpin's anniversary message, preached at the beginning of his 23rd year as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Russell.

"Behold, the days come, saith the Lord God, that I will send a famine in the land, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, but of hearing the words of the Lord."—Amos 8:11.

If you will read carefully through the Bible, you will see that the Word of God speaks often of famines. I didn't look up in the Bible the number of

times that the word occurs, nor how often famines are mentioned, but I am sure that if you will take time to go through it, you will find that many, many references will be found within the Book as to famines.

The Word of God tells us the story of famine in Abram's day, for we read:

"And there was a famine in the land and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the famine was grievous in the land."—Gen. 12:10.

Abram had just gotten where

God wanted him, for God had reached down into Mesopotamia and picked him up and brought him into Palestine. Now Abram puts himself where God didn't want him. The excuse was that there was a famine. Hard times came and difficulties arose and Abram moved down into Egypt where God didn't want him to go. Why? Because of a famine.

The Word of God tells us concerning another famine.

"Now it came to pass in the days when the judges ruled, that there was a famine in the

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OUR \$100 CLUB

Five of our friends and one church have sent \$100.00 each toward the enlargement of THE BAPTIST EXAMINER. This along with smaller gifts which we have received gives us now a good start toward our goal of a new linotype.

We thank God for every gift, and every friend, and take courage as we face the future.

How earnestly we pray each day for our new equipment! We do need our new linotype badly, and we sincerely trust that it will only be a short time until we have the funds in hand with which to purchase it.

A number of our friends have promised to send \$100 within the next few months. However, may I remind you that any gift—large or small—will be deeply appreciated today.

THE BAPTIST EXAMINER
JOHN R. GILPIN — EDITOR
PUBLISHED WEEKLY
SUBSCRIPTION PRICE
(Domestic and Foreign)
One Year in Advance.....50c

Send Remittance to Russell, Ky.
Editorial Department, RUSSELL,
KENTUCKY, where communications
should be sent for publication.

Entered as second-class matter May
31, 1941, in the post office at Russell,
Ky., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Paid circulation in every state and
many foreign countries.

Subscriptions are stopped at expira-
tion unless renewed or special arrange-
ments are made for their continuation.

"Spiritual Famines"

(Continued from page one)
land. And a certain man of
Beth-lehem-judah went to so-
journ in the country of Moab,
he, and his wife, and his two
sons."—Ruth 1:1.

Notice that Elimelech and
Naomi left Beth-lehem-judah
all because of a famine, and
that they and their two sons
lived in Moab for a number of
years until Elimelech and the
two sons died. You can say that
the reason back of it all was a
famine.

In the days of Elijah in the
time of Ahab, there was a great
famine. In fact, beloved, there
wasn't any rain that fell on the
earth for three and one-half
years during the time that Eli-
jah was God's prophet. As a
result, springs dried up and
nothing was grown by way of
crops. We read:

"And Elijah went to show
himself unto Ahab. And there
was a sore famine in Samaria."
—I Kings 18:2.

We read concerning another
famine in God's Word:

"And there was a great fa-
mine in Samaria: and, behold,
they besieged it, until an ass's
head was sold for four-score
pieces of silver, and the fourth
part of a cab of dove's dung for
five pieces of silver."—II Kings
6:25.

The Syrians had thrown up
an army all around the city of
Samaria. People couldn't go out,
and they couldn't come in.
There was a blockade all around
the city to the extent that food
couldn't be brought in. It got
to the place, beloved, that they
were eating the dung of a dove.
It got to the place that they
would take the head of a mule
and sell it for an exorbitant
price. This same chapter de-
clares that they actually ate
their own offspring, for as the
king was walking around the
city, observing its defenses, a
woman cried to him in her dis-
tress, and he said, "What shall
I do for you?" She said, "At
least make her do what she
ought to do. Yesterday when
we were hungry we took my
son and boiled him and ate
him, and she said she would do
the same with her son today.
Now she has hidden her son
and won't cook him for our
dinner today."

Beloved, when the maternal
love of a mother goes so wild
that she will kill her own off-
spring and feed upon his flesh,
that is famine.

We have another great fa-
mine spoken of in the Word of
God.

"And their nobles have sent
their little ones to the waters;
they came to the pits, and found
no water; they returned with
their vessels empty; they were
ashamed and confounded, and

CHRISTIANITY AND NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS COMPARED REFORMS

CHRISTIANITY. Instead of our reforming Christianity, it
transforms us. The Gospel needs no revising, though the creeds
men draw from it often need changing.

BRAHMANISM has had many reformers. Chunder Sen
searched the creeds of all religions and composed one for him-
self using as a basis, "the Fatherhood of God and the Brother-
hood of Man." His tributes to Christ are earnest and generous.

IF A MAN WANTS A FULL KNOWLEDGE OF MORALITY, HE MUST GO
TO THE NEW TESTAMENT.

HINDUISM. Various reform movements have arisen in India.
The Arya Samaj theoretically opposes caste, idolatry, child mar-
riage and pilgrimages. The Brahma Samaj has borrowed from
Christianity and instituted reform movements. It is headed by
very influential men. The British government has put down
widow burning, throwing children into the sacred rivers, and sui-
cide in religious processions.

BUDDHISTS have no desire for reforms. In Japan they have
been compelled to follow the initiative of the government. This
was done without serious resistance, because the Japanese have
from time immemorial, followed implicitly the will of the state.

MORAL LIFE BELONGS TO ALL MEN. SPIRITUAL LIFE IS POSSESSED
ONLY BY THE REGENERATED

TAOISM. Any reform of Taoism means an entirely new
system. This is proven by such teaching as: "Do not shout or get
angry on the first day of the month. Do not spit toward shooting
stars. Do not weep toward the north. Do not point at a rain-
bow. Do not destroy paper which is written upon. Do not
stare at the sun or moon. Do not leap over a well."

CONFUCIANISM. The whole empire of China for 2,000 years
has had its face turned toward the past and its back to the future.
The Confucian classics have contained China's ideals and the
thought of their improvement has never come to mind. The re-
form movements as yet have not touched the Confucian classics.

YOU CAN ALWAYS DISTRUST A MAN WHOSE LOVE OF HUMANITY
DOES NOT EXTEND TO JESUS CHRIST.

ZOROASTRIANISM. The founder of this system was him-
self a reformer. In the "Zend Avestas," he is represented as
standing before sacred fire and in a speech seeking to induce his
countrymen to forsake the worship of the dervis or gods, and to
bow only to Ormazd. He was very zealous against idol worship.

THE PARSEES have been aggressive and quick to learn new
methods of business and have adopted many western ideas; but in
religion, they have tenaciously held to the old beliefs and practices.

IF WE CANNOT DO THE GOOD WE WOULD, WE OUGHT TO DO THE
GOOD WE CAN.

SHINTOISM. Education has exploded many teachings of
Shintoism, until its leaders have voluntarily abandoned its claim
to be a religion. Ancestral worship is much modified; sun worship
is nearly abandoned and it is now only a cult, the chief aim of
which is to promulgate the spirit of patriotism and loyalty to
the emperor.

MOHAMMEDANISM was "cast in a mold made in eternity"
and all things were fixed by divine decree, therefore improvements
or development is impious. All progressive movements are made
in spite of Mohammedanism. It cannot reform without forsaking
itself. Slowly the Moslems are taking on European ways, which
are gradually breaking down their bitter prejudice and paving
the way for reform.

covered their heads. Because
the ground is chapped, for there
was no rain in the earth, the
plowmen were ashamed, they
covered their heads. Yea, the
hind also calved in the field,
and forsook it, because there
was no grass. And the wild asses
did stand in the high places,
they snuffed up the wind like
dragons; their eyes did fail, be-
cause there was no grass."—Jer.
14:3-6.

These few references would
indicate that the Bible refers
many, many times to famines.

I

HOWEVER, MY TEXT ISN'T
REFERRING TO A FAMINE
OF BREAD, OR A FAMINE OF
WATER, BUT IT REFERS TO
A FAMINE OF THE WORD OF
GOD. Beloved, I believe that
that day is upon us today.

It doesn't say that there is a
famine of Bibles, for there are
plenty of Bibles. I am sure that
in your home, counting Testa-
ments and portions of the
Scripture, there are probably
four or five copies of God's
Word. There are plenty of

Bibles in the world. The Bible
itself has been translated into
over a thousand languages. You
can go into the heart of India,
or into China and Japan, or
into countries in darkness and
you will find the Word of God,
or at least a portion of it has
been translated into their lan-
guage. The American Bible Society
has done a monumental piece of
work in the translating and
printing and distributing of the
Bible into over a thousand ton-
gues and languages. While I am
not a Gideon, I pause to say that
the Gideons have placed Bibles
in homes, soldier camps, motels,
hotels, schools, colleges, and
into every conceivable place
within the world.

My text doesn't say that there
will be a famine of Bibles, for
there are plenty of Bibles, but
it does say that there will be
a famine in the hearing of the
Word of God.

This is hard to understand in
view of the fact that we are
commanded to study the Bible.
It is not left up to us to do as
we want to do for we have a
command of God to study it.

"Study to show thyself ap-

proved unto God a workman
that needeth not to be ashamed,
rightly dividing the word of
truth."—II Tim. 2:15.

Likewise, we are commanded
to preach the Word of God.
When the apostle Paul wrote to
young Timothy, he said:

"Preach the word; be instant
in season, out of season; reprove,
rebuke, exhort with all long-
suffering and doctrine." — II
Tim. 4:2.

Beloved, it is hard to under-
stand that there could ever be
a famine of the Word of God
in view of the fact that the
Bible is so commonly found to-
day, and, since we are com-
manded to study and preach it.
Yet in spite of those command-
ments of God, my text prophe-
sies that there will be a famine
for the hearing of the Word of
God.

You can go into most any
town and will find at least
three or four so-called churches.
Also the ministry today is far
more educated than ever before.
When you remember the great
number of so-called churches
today and that practically any
preacher that you meet is more
or less educated—when you re-
member this, it is hard to un-
derstand how there could be a
famine for the hearing of the
Word of God.

Beloved, you will admit that
this famine exists, for there is
never a week goes by but what
I get a multitude of letters from
readers of THE BAPTIST EX-
AMINER scattered over Amer-
ica, lamenting the fact that they
can't hear God's Word where
they live. Many of you here be-
fore me have told me of going
on trips, visiting relatives, being
away on business, and the dif-
ficulty you have in finding a
place where you could hear the
Word of God. You can find
church buildings and hear
preachers but the difficulty is
to hear the Word of God. You
can hear stories and essays and
book reviews but it is a differ-
ent thing that God is talking
about, for He says that there
will be a famine for the hear-
ing of the Word of God.

A few years ago a book was
written entitled "Magnificent
Obsession." It became over night
one of the best sellers. I know
of one preacher in Ohio who
spent four Sunday evenings re-
viewing this book. He never
opened his Bible on these four
consecutive evenings, but rather
reviewed "Magnificent Ob-
session." One of the brethren
of the church said to me, "My
soul is famished for a lack of
the Word of God." That is fa-
mine for the hearing of the
Word of God.

A man wrote to me from out
in Montana a few days ago that
for nine Sunday evenings the
Word of God hadn't been open-
ed in their pulpit. The pastor
was writing a book on child
psychology and every Sunday
evening he would read a chap-
ter of his book. The man who
wrote me, said, "How it would
thrill my soul if I could only
be where I could hear the Word
of God."

There is a famine, beloved,
for the hearing of the Word
of God.

I remember a so-called Bap-
tist preacher in Grand Rapids,
Michigan, who was pastor of a
church where in one service
they sang "America" and other
patriotic songs, where they
never read from the Bible,
where the name of God the
Father, nor God the Son, nor
God the Holy Spirit was ever
alluded to in the slightest, nor
where a prayer was offered, but
where the pastor lectured for
thirty minutes on Francis Ba-
con, the English essayist. Sure-
ly, beloved, there is a famine for

the hearing of the Word of God.
The sad thing about it is that
a lot of people are glad that it
is true. A lot of laymen are
happy over what they are get-
ting. A lot of them don't want
the Word of God. To be sure,
they don't know the Lord. To
be sure, they are ignorant of
Him. They do not know Him
as a Saviour and are therefore
perfectly content.

"The prophets prophesy false-
ly, and the priests bear rule by
their means; and MY PEOPLE
LOVE TO HAVE IT SO: and
what will ye do in the end
thereof?"—Jer. 5:31.

"Which say to the seers, See
not; and to the prophets, Prophe-
sy not unto us right things,
speak unto us SMOOTH
THINGS, PROPHECY DE-
CEITS."—Isa. 30:10.

A carnal people always love
a carnal priesthood and a car-
nal ministry. That was the way
it was before the children of
Israel went into captivity. They
were saying, "Don't tell us the
truth. Let's have a ministry
that makes us happy, and not
a ministry that will upset us
because of our sins." There are
a lot of people today who love
that kind of ministry. They like
a ministry that will allow them
to go on in their sins and will
not upset them because of their
carnality, and they rejoice when
they can slip into a church
that makes them feel comfortable
in their ungodliness.

Beloved, God's elect grieve
over a situation like that. God's
man or God's woman wants
God's Word, and he isn't going
to be happy with anything else
but the Word of God. Every-
one of God Almighty's elect
wants to know what God has
to say, regardless of how it
hurts, or what it costs.

We read concerning the heart
cry of one of God's children:

"I will delight myself in thy
statutes I will not forget thy
word . . . Thy testimonies also
are my delight, and my coun-
sels . . . Thy statutes have
been my songs in the house of
my pilgrimage . . . The law of
thy mouth is better unto me
than thousands of gold and sil-
ver . . . I opened my mouth,
and panted: for I longed for thy
commandments . . . Seven times
a day do I praise thee, because
of thy righteous judgments."—
Ps. 119:16, 24, 54, 72, 131, 164.

Oh, brother, sister it grieves
my soul when I think of the
famine there is in the world
for the hearing of the Word of
God.

II

WHAT HAS THIS SPIRI-
TUAL FAMINE PRODUCED?

First of all it has produced
starved souls.

I saw a picture of a man who
was a prisoner of war for near-
ly four years in World War II.
He had just been rescued from
the hands of the Japanese. He
was scarcely more than skin
and bones—a walking skeleton.
I also saw his picture of what
he had looked like in life before
he had been captured by the
Japanese. What a contrast! As
I looked at that man whose
body had been starved by mal-
nutrition, I thought of how
many people there are in this
world whose soul looks just
exactly like that man's body.
When you don't want the Word
of God, it results in a starved
soul, and, beloved, spiritual
starvation is worse than phys-
ical starvation. Spiritual star-
vation has to do with that that
lives throughout eternity, while
physical starvation merely has
to do with that which lasts for
a time only.

This spiritual famine also pro-
duces weak churches. The best
(Continued on page three)

I UNDERSTAND

Hast thou been hungry, child of Mine?
I, too, have needed bread;
For forty days I tasted naught
Till by the angels fed.
Hast thou been thirsty? On the cross
I suffered thirst for thee;
I've promised to supply thy need,
My child, come unto Me.

Perhaps thy way is weary oft,
Thy feet grow tired and lame;
I wearied when I reached the well,
I suffered just the same:
And when I bore the heavy cross
I fainted 'neath the load;
And so I've promised rest to all
Who walk the weary road.

Doth Satan sometimes buffet thee,
And tempt thy soul to sin?
Do faith and hope and love grow weak?
Are doubts and fears within?
Remember I was tempted thrice
By this same foe of thine;
But he could not resist the Word,
Nor conquer pow'r divine.

When thou art sad and tears fall fast
My heart goes out to thee,
For I wept o'er Jerusalem--
The place so dear to me:
And when I came to Lazarus' tomb
I wept--my heart was sore;
I'll comfort thee when thou dost weep,
Till sorrows all are o'er.

Do hearts prove false when thine is true?
I know the bitter dart;
I was betrayed by one I loved--
I died of a broken heart;
I loved My own, they loved Me not,
My heart was lonely, too;
I'll never leave thee, child of Mine,
My loving heart is true.

Art thou discouraged in thy work?
Doth ministry seem vain?
I ministered midst unbelief,
Midst those with greed of gain:
They would not hearken to my voice,
But scoffed with one accord;
Your labor never is in vain
If done unto the Lord.

Have courage, then, My faithful one,
I suffered all the way,
Thy sensitive and loving heart
I understand today;
Whate'er thy grief, whate'er thy care,
Just bring it unto Me;
Yea, in thy day of trouble, call,
I will deliver thee.

"Spiritual Famines"

(Continued from page two)

way to build a strong church is to preach strong doctrine, and the best way to build a weak church is to give them but very, very meager doses of the Word of God. This famine for the hearing of the Word of God is the cause of heresy. You wouldn't have the heresy of the universal, invisible church if the Word of God were preached. You wouldn't have the heresy of falling from grace, or the heresy of salvation by works, or the heresy of salvation by baptism if the Word of God

were preached. There wouldn't be any heresy in this world if the Word of God were preached. Everywhere that there is a famine for the Word of God, you will find heresies and modernism and denials of God's Word, and weak churches.

This spiritual famine also produces a hatred against God's man who does preach the Word. Somebody may say, "Maybe what that man preaches is the truth, but nobody else believes it, and nobody else preaches it," and the result is a hatred engendered against the man who preaches the Word of God in all of its purity.

How well I know by personal

experience and by observation that the man who dares to stand up and contend for the Word of God, is going to be hated, because his preaching is so different to what the world at large is striving for.

All the false churches have come because of a famine of the Word of God. If you could get men to sit down unbiased and unprejudiced and listen to God's Word, there wouldn't be a false church left. It is because of a famine of God's Word that false churches have begun and have grown at a tremendous proportion within this world today.

Every Catholic and Protestant church would die if there were no famine of God's Word. A lot of so-called Baptist churches would to. If there were no famine of God's Word, all that would be left would be true New Testament Missionary Baptist Churches, just like Jesus started with in the first century.

III

WHAT SHOULD BE THE ATTITUDE OF A CHURCH WHERE THE PASTOR OF THAT CHURCH TAKES HIS STAND FOR THE WORD OF GOD?

A man said to me a few days ago, "I am convinced that I ought to love my pastor and pray for him more than ever before, because of his stand for the Word of God." Beloved, that ought to be the attitude of any church that is fortunate enough to have a pastor who stands up for God's Word. They ought not only support that pastor but they ought also send out missionaries to the ends of the earth. If we believe and love this Word, we ought to want everybody else to hear the Word and believe it as we preach it.

That is why I am interested in sending missionaries to foreign fields. I want everybody to hear God's Word. I do not want that there will be any starved souls. I don't want that there will be false churches. I want that there will be true churches, and the only way that it can be had is for the church that has the Word, to send the Word to others.

I ask you, what ought to be the attitude of a church whose pastor stands for God's Word? Beloved, they ought to preach the Word in their living and in their testimony every day.

I am so glad for this Book. I love what this Bible says about the doctrine of election—that God chose men unto salvation before the foundation of the world, and I want to preach it. I am glad what this Bible says about the blood—the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ. I am glad for all that is in this Bible, and I want to preach it every day.

Likewise, I am glad for what this Bible condemns by way of unionism and Arminianism and all the other isms and heresies of the world. I am glad for the way that this Bible condemns, and I want to condemn it from this pulpit, and I want you to condemn it by your testimony and your living every day.

A few weeks ago after our mid-week service was over, Brother Reffitt stopped at the door and paused to say something concerning what we had been discussing that night. He said, "Brother Gilpin, in view of the teachings that we get here, this church ought to be the greatest missionary, soul-winning church in the world."

Certainly we should, beloved. A church that is fed ought to grow, and not only grow, but to give the Word to others. That ought to be our attitude. When

A PAGE FROM "MUSED UNCLE MOSE"



One reason w'y a lot o' peoples don' go to chu'ch dese days is dat dey ain' no intermission in de sar-mon fo' time to smoke.

"Mused Uncle Mose" is a 64-page book, of over 200 philosophical sayings, similar to the above, containing 20 full-page pictures. It costs \$1.00 postpaid, and is worth every penny. Order from us.

I think about the famine that is abroad in this world for the hearing of the Word of God, and when I think of some of you who tell me of going places and can't hear God's Book, — when I think of this, I come back and say, "Oh, God, help us as a church just to give and give out thy Word to the ends of the earth."

Twenty-two years ago this morning I stood here to preach my first sermon to you as your pastor. During these years I have tried to give you God's Word. As I look back across the years and see how God has blessed us as we have tried to give out His Word, I rejoice and I thank God for all of His goodness unto us as a body. I am happier today in my ministry than ever before as your pastor. My prayer to God is this, that as the days come and go, that God will help us to love His Word a little more, and to be more faithful to the Book, so that there won't be any famine for the hearing of the Word of God in this community.

When the Mexican War was being fought, there were approximately one hundred and eighty men of the Federal army entrapped in the Alamo, who were massacred by the Mexicans. The general said, "You still have time to escape if you wish, but how many of you are willing to die with me to inspire America that Texas might be free?" He took his sword and drew a line from one end of the building to the other. He said, "Everyone that is willing to take his stand that Texas might be free, please step over on the other side of this line." Immediately everyone of those men stepped over to the other side but one. Old Dave Crockett lying there on a cot, dying from a dozen wounds in his body, couldn't move. He said, "Pick up my hat boys, and put it on the other side." They did so. He said, "Pick up my sword

and put it over there." They did so. Then he said, "Pick up my cot and set it over there, that I might die on that side of line, too." They did so. One woman escaped to tell the story.

I would to God this morning that you would take your stand as fearlessly and stand up for the support of the Word of God in this community, that there might not be any famine in the hearing of God's Word. Would to God that you might take your stand thus today!

I want to do this morning that which I have never done before. We are beginning today a new year of relationship as pastor and people—the beginning of my twenty-third year. I want to ask you for a pledge of support and loyalty to your pastor as he tries to preach God's Word. As we sing, I don't want you to come shake hands with me as a pledge of your support, for I am too unworthy and too sinful for you to make a pledge to God by shaking my hand, but if you want to take your stand for the Word of God and to give your pastor a pledge of support as he tries to preach God's Word, I ask you to come and put your hand on this Word of God and say by your coming, "Pastor, I'll stand by you as you try to preach God's Word."

May God bless you!

What an inspiring scene followed the preaching of this message! The pastor placed his Bible on the Communion table and sat back on the rostrum to rejoice as the congregation silently came and placed their hands on the Bible. Many faces were filled with tears. Many breathed a silent prayer as they paused briefly with

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Full Of The Bible

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"You need not be deceived by it. I would not have you drink much. A little will do you no harm but would liven you up."

"At the last it biteth like a serpent, and stingeth like an adder," said the boy, "and I certainly think it is wise not to play with an adder."

"My fine young friend," said the crafty man, "it will give me great pleasure if you will only come and drink one glass of the best wine with me."

"My Bible says, 'If sinners entice thee, consent thou not,'" was his reply.

This was a stunning blow to the tempter, and he went back to his companion, defeated.

"Well, how did you succeed?" he asked.

"Not at all. The fact is," replied the man, "that youngster is so full of the Bible that I cannot do anything with him."

—Missouri Missionary Baptist



"Spiritual Famines"

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their hand on the Bible. One young business man and his mother, who just recently moved to town, presented themselves, to unite with the church by letter. After the service was dismissed he said, "We'll never have a famine of God's Word here as long as Bro. Gilpin is our pastor." Beloved, I ask that you pray for me that what he said may be true!



Church Discipline

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What then? Should a committee never be sent to an offender to reason with him? Yes sometimes a committee is certainly advisable. Generally not.

2. A second mistake in administering discipline is the showing of partiality.

The Bible says that "God is no respecter of persons." Neither should a church be. No matter whose cousin it is; whose child it is; whose friend it is, let them be dealt with according to their deserts. To be sure baby Christians ought to be dealt with in a more tender way than those who know to do better. And of course all circumstances ought to be weighed. But money, station, etc., ought not make any difference.

3. A third mistake is for members to sympathize with the offender. Often folk get around an excluded member with, "We don't think they did you right." "They ought to have sent someone to talk to you." "I don't blame you for getting mad." It is just that sort of thing that defeats the purpose of church discipline.

What Proper Church Discipline Will Do

1. It will cause the world in general to respect a church. Un-gadver people have a contempt for a church that is morally rotten.

2. It will prevent many church members from getting loose and careless in life. Church members almost go to the dogs sometimes because their church fails to hold up any decent standard.

3. It will bring the blessings of God. God says, "Purge out the leaven." He says not to

"eat" with the gross offenders. And when a church obeys Him it will receive His blessing. Too many "Achans in the camp" will lose the victory.

4. It will develop a backbone among members, and will elevate the privilege of church membership in the thinking of people.



Russia

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carry out. The scheme of Russia called for continual wars in Europe. To set nation against nation for the destruction of each other until the hour should come when Russia could strike with unerring certainty of victory and gain the coveted pathways to the warm southern seas—such was the plan. It is still the plan. Now, possession of Palestine would be the longest step toward the realization of the dream of Peter the Great. But just WHY did, not only Russia, but all the nations, look with covetous eyes upon this little strip of rocky soil?

III. Biblical Evidences

Ezekiel pronounces Palestine to be "the navel of the earth"—that is a most expressive phrase. It reveals the reason why the nations, through the stretch of the centuries, have fought, bled, and even died, to secure possession of that little strip of Mediterranean shore.

Webster tells us that the NAVE is "the central part or point of anything." Elsewhere it is recorded: "Thus saith the Lord Jehovah: This is Jerusalem; I have set her IN THE MIDST OF THE NATIONS" (Ezek. 5:5). Jehan de Mandeville ("Sir John Mandeville"), nearly six hundred years ago, in his famous book, TRAVELS, wrote:

"The Holy Land, which men call the land of promise or best, passing all other lands, is the most worthy land, most excellent . . . the sovereign of all other lands . . . THE HEART AND THE MIDDLE OF THE WORLD."

One of the Popes, Urban, Mohammed, and many others have declared that, because of its geographical position, Jerusalem is "placed in the very center of the world." Kurtz says: "Viewed geographically, politically, or commercially, Palestine is the 'UMBILICUS TERRARUM' OF THE ANCIENT WORLD" (His. Old Cov., Vol. 1, pg. 147).

IV. Palestine Binds Together Three Continents

Palestine—that vital link that binds together the three mighty continents that carry on their bosoms the vast majority of mankind—Asia, Europe, Africa! It marks the pathway over which the trade routes have run from the earliest story of our race. Palestine, lure of the traveller, beacon of the sage, magnet of the prince, envy of kings, lodestar of nations, shrine of worshippers, land of the promises, uplifter of Calvary, hope of the future—Palestine, "the navel of the earth" until years shall be no more!

Far back in those mystic days, when the knowledge of "what lies beyond" was exceedingly limited, how did those captive prophets know that Jerusalem was "the navel of the earth?" The only answer is—GOD! That spot Jehovah chose as the place whereon His Son should sit enthroned in glory when "out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of Jehovah from Jerusalem" (Isa. 2:3); when "all the nations . . . shall go up from

year to year to worship the King" (Zech. 14:16); and when, at last, instead of sorrow, suffering, and death, "the ransomed of Jehovah shall return and come with singing unto Zion; and everlasting joy shall be upon their heads: they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away" (Isa. 35:10).

"Arise, O Sun!"

V. Gog's Invasion of Israel's Land

"And there was mounting in hot haste: the steed, The mustering squadron, and the clattering car, Went pouring forward with impetuous speed.

And swiftly forming in the ranks of war;

And the deep thunder peal on peal, afar

And near; the beat of the alarming drum

Roused up the soldier ere the morning star;

While throng'd the citizens with terror dumb,

Or whispering with white lips—"The foe! They come! they come!"

Thus wrote Lord Byron. And as Gog mobilizes his legions in that day there will be "white lips" in Palestine! "The foe! They come! they come!"

Israel still will persist in reminding the world of God. But God must be forgotten! Therefore, Israel must perish! Gog has decreed it!

Moreover, Gog affirms: "Capitalism must go! Israelitism and Capitalism are synonymous words. Therefore, Israelitism must perish! Gog has decreed it!"

In the eyes of the Communist the world's two greatest evils are GOD and CAPITALISM. Israel is the embodiment of them both. Israel must perish or Communism must perish. The world isn't big enough to contain them both. Therefore, Israel must die and her sacred land confiscated for the state. Gog marshals his legions, and, together with his allies, marches! "They come! they come!"

Down from the plains—up over the mountains—out from "Gog's Ford"—on past the cedars of Lebanon—thousands upon thousands—"as a cloud to cover the land"—onto "the mountains of Israel"—"into the land of unwalled villages . . . to take the spoil and to take the prey." (Ezek. 38:11,12).—The Uplook.



Catholicism

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is to so occupy their minds that it will not be possible to study the pure teaching of Christ that they may be saved. Prayers to Mary, the counting of beads, the rosary, if you please, the sign of the cross, and much more emptiness, so occupies the mind and body of Catholics that Jesus Christ can get none of their service. How do we know this? The priest's business is to see that that distance is always maintained. That is the pathos of Roman Catholicism. Its plea for a "closer walk with God" is simply a plea for a closer adherence to those teachings and practices that have only an earthly and human origin. The fear of the pope, rather than the fear of God, is the driving power of Catholicism.

—Vindicator



If a sinner without Christ could creep into heaven, he would carry within him hell fire that would give him no rest.

A Moment in the Morning

A moment in the morning, ere the cares of day begin.
Ere the heart's wide door is open for the world to enter in;
Ah, then alone with Jesus, in the silence of the morn,
In heavenly, sweet communion let your joyful day be born.
In the quietude that blesses with a prelude of repose,
Let your soul be soothed and softened, as the dew revives the rose.

A moment in the morning take your Bible in your hand,
And catch a glimpse of glory from the peaceful promised land;
It will linger still within you when you seek the busy mart,
And, like flowers of hope, will blossom into beauty in your heart;
The precious words, like jewels, will glisten all the day,
With a rare effulgent glory that will brighten all the way.

A moment in the morning -- a moment, if not more --
Is better than an hour when thy trying day is o'er.
'Tis the gentle dew from Heaven, the manna for the day;
If you fail to gather early -- alas! it melts away.
So, in the blush of morning take the offered hand of love,
And walk in Heaven's pathway and the peace that's from above.

LATER THAN YOU THINK!

Two small boys had taken a clock apart to see what "made it tick." After examining each part, they put it back together.

During the night, their father was awakened when the clock began striking. It struck 117 times without stopping. "Cindy," he said to his wife, excitedly, "you'd better git up! It's later than I ever knowed it to be!"

Quite scriptural, at that! Romans 13:11-12 says: "Now it is high time to wake out of sleep . . . The night is far spent, the day is at hand."

—Rural Gospel Crusader

Wheat Field

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rich harvest. Men and women of rich attainment and ability are usually modest and unassuming while the empty-headed people all too often feverishly lift themselves above the crowd as if afraid they may not receive the attention they think they deserve. One of the surest evidences of greatness is a humble spirit.

—Unknown

Heaven would be hell to an irreligious man. One who cannot stand a prayer meeting house would find no satisfaction there.

DID YOU KNOW?

1. That the Baptists were called *Anabaptists* as early as 200 A. D.?
2. That the word *Anabaptist* means *rebaptizer*?
3. That for 1300 years before the Protestant reformation the Anabaptists insisted on rebaptizing all who came to them from other sects?
4. That during the centuries millions of them died for their faith?
5. That the first Baptist Church established in Georgia in 1773 was called the Kisko Anabaptist Church?
6. About 1845 Dr. L. H. Cone, pastor of First Baptist Church of New York City and Rev. Wm. Whitsitt of Tennessee referred to alien baptism as a dangerous innovation?
7. That Baptists are dying out wherever alien baptism is accepted?
8. That all these facts are brought out in the new revised edition of ALIEN BAPTISM AND THE BAPTISTS, together with a discussion of the universal, invisible church, and the claim of the Roman Catholics that Christ built His church on Peter?
9. That you can obtain this beautiful, revised, cloth bound book from THE BAPTIST EXAMINER, postpaid, for the small sum of \$1.50?

Why not order ten books and teach and indoctrinate your church in these fundamental truths? You will find a questionnaire at the close for this very purpose.